

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
TO THE  
UCKFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
1925



Area in acres	1760)	
Census Population	3385)	Census Returns
Number of inhabited Houses	822)	
Number of Families or separate occupiers	841)	1921
Rateable value	£17253)	
Sum represented by one penny rate	£65)	

	<u>1920</u>	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
Population estimated to middle of year	1958	3384	3372	3387	3400	3420
Birth rate per 1000 of population	30.4	21.0	14.3	18.	17.	19.
Deaths under one year per 1000 Births	44.0	71.4	48.0	49.	83.	45.
Total Death rate per 1000	15.0	14.0	14.6	12.	20.	18.
Nett Death rate per 1000	14.1	14.0	14.0	7.6	15.	12.
Zymotic Death rate per 1000	.5	1.0	0.0	0.2	.3	.2
Death rate from Phthisis per 1000	.6	1.1	.5	0.0	1.3	0.0
Death rate from Respiratory Diseases per 1000	0.6	1.0	1.7	0.0	2.5	1.0
Senile Mortality, deaths at 65 years & over as percentage of Nett Deaths	52.2	40.0	60.	46.0	54.	55.

Births legitimate	Total 62,	Males 32,	Females 30)	Birth rate
" Illegitimate	" 4	" 3	" 1)	19.
Nett Deaths	" 43	" 21	" 22)	Death Rate 12.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of child-birth  
Sepsis - Nil, Accident 1.



## VITAL STATISTICS.

From the recent corrected Census Returns of 1923 the Population of the District and the increases since the Census 1901 are as follows:-

		Males		Females
1901 -	2895 persons,			
1911 -	5344 "	"	1537	" 1807
1921 -	3385 "	"	1562	" 1823

Density of Population is 1.9 persons per acre

The total deaths of infants under 1 year of age were 3

The causes of death were Whooping Cough 1, Premature Birth 1, Bronchitis 1.

The Infantile Death Rate was 45 per 1000 Births registered.

The Total Death Rate represents the total number of deaths of persons occurring within the District whether visitors or residents.

The Nett Death Rate or corrected death rate is arrived at by excluding visitors dying within the District and including deaths of persons belonging to the District but dying elsewhere.

The Nett Death Rate was 12. per 1000 at all ages.

The causes of death were Cancer 5, Heart Disease 4, Bronchitis 3, Accidents 2.


55 per cent of the deaths occurred at over 65 years of age.

## COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS.

	Birth Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate	Death Rate
Uckfield Urban	19.	45.	12.0
England & Wales	18.3	75.	12.2

It is satisfactory to note the Birth Rate has risen.

The death rate is lower, while the Infantile Death rate is decidedly less. There is nothing to call attention to in the causes of deaths with exception of the number of cases of Cancer.



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## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Total.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diphtheria	3	3	-
Scarlet Fever	3	2	-
Pul; Tuberculosis M.I.F.6	7	4	1

## NURSING.

Nursing - General District Nurses - By Private Association

Child Welfare Centre - Meetings once in 4 weeks

Hospitals- Tuberculosis - Darvell Bank, Robertsbridge, by County.

Fever - Chailey Fever Hospital - Local Authority.

Smallpox- East Sussex Western Smallpox Hospital, Plumpton.

Venereal- Brighton County Hospital, Tunbridge Wells and Hastings.

Accidents- Cottage Hospital, Uckfield

Ambulance- a ) Haywards Heath Red Cross

b ) Chailey Isolation Hospital.

## Laboratory Work.

Bacteriological Examinations are made by the M.O.H

14 Swabs for Diphtheria were examined, 4 were positive, 10 negative.

## Disinfection.

Formalin & Sulphur Candles, Sanitas, Lysol, Jeyes & Lawes Powder,

Clothing if necessary removed to Chailey Hospital Steam Disinfector.

Antitoxin Diphtherial Serum is supplied on demand to Medical Practitioners.

## List of Adoptive Acts & Bylaws.

Feb.	1.	1890	Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act 1889
"	1.	1897	Private Streets Works Act 1892
May	1st	1898	Public Health Act Amendment Act 1892 part 3
"	1	"	Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act 1890
"	6	1881	Byelaws with respect to Slaughter Houses
Nov.	6	1896	" " " Nuisances
Oct	7	1898	" as to Nuisances in connection with removal of offensive or noxious matter.
Dec	1	1899	" with respect to the Victoria Pleasure Grounds.
Mar	1	1907	Additional Byelaws with respect to " " "
Sep	5	1919	Byelaws with respect to Hackney Carriages
Apr	26	1923	Modified Byelaws with respect to New Streets and Buildings.



## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Tabular Summary of the Sanitary Inspector's Report for year 1925:-

No. of Inspections	488
Nuisances discovered and abated	140
Bakehouses inspected	22
Nuisances found and abated	Nil
Slaughter House inspections	50
Nuisances found and abated	Nil
Schools inspected	3
Nuisances found and abated	Nil
Laundries in the district	2
" inspected, Nuisances	Nil
Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops (Nuisances - Nil)	20
Workshops & Factories (Nuisances - Nil)	20
Houses connected to Sewers	774
" with privies & earth closets	48
2 supplied with company's Water	822
" " by Wells	23

### SCAVENGING.

House Refuse removed by Contract every 7 or 10 days deposited on waste ground outside District and buried

12 Brick Ashpits replaced by movable Ashbins

### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

M.O.H. qualified, D.P.H. whole time.

A new Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor was appointed in June 1925. Qualified R.S.I.

### HOUSING.

No. of New Houses erected during the year:-

- a) Total - 7
- b) Municipal Scheme - Nil
- c) By Private persons - 1.

Houses occupied by the Working Classes - 554

### Unfit Dwelling Houses.

1. Inspection	1) Total No. of Dwelling Houses inspected	89
	2) " " " recorded	19
	3) " " " condemned	Nil

2.

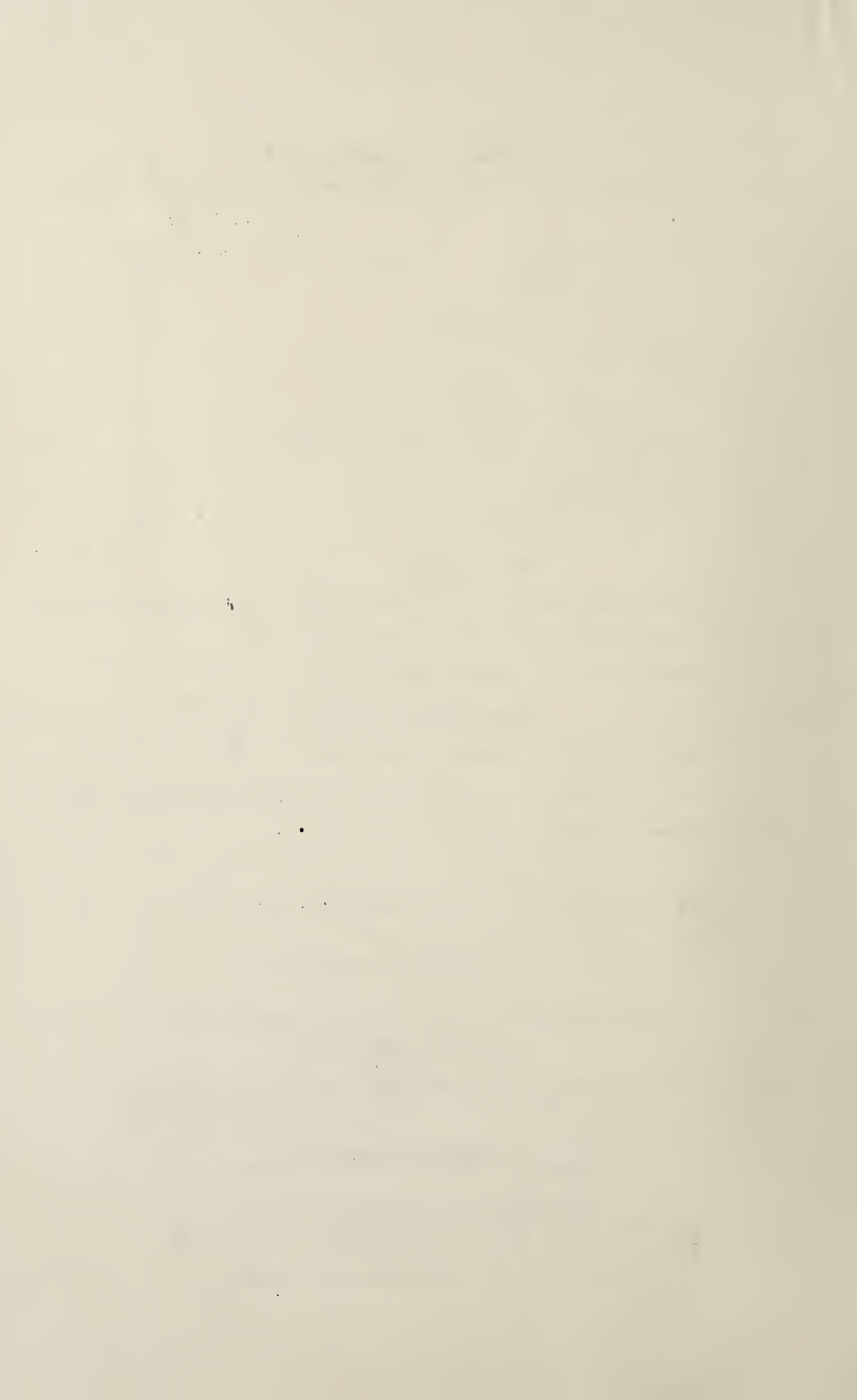
#### Remedy of Defects

Remedy of defects without formal Notice 3

#### Action under Statutory Powers.

- a) Proceedings under sec. 28 H.T.P. Act 1919 - Nil
- b) " " P.H. Act 1875 68

No. of houses in which defects were remedied 51





797 Houses are connected to Sewers.

The Sewage is treated in tanks and filters and effluent discharged into Stream. The removal of the Sewage Works to the site previously purchased has not yet taken place on account of the serious expense.

#### GENERAL REMARKS.

The Report of the Medical Officer of Health is ordered to be a general sanitary survey report for the previous 5 years. The Town of Uckfield has altered little during the past 5 years. The District is chiefly residential, some farming chiefly dairying and stock raising. There are some Brick & Tile making Works, Flour Mills, Laundries, Motor Garages & Workshops where persons are employed. These workers live in the smaller houses in the Town. Continual inspection is required to keep these houses in good repair. The Council have been mindful of the necessity of providing houses for the working Classes and during the past 5 years several houses have been erected and it is proposed to build 12 non-parlour houses.

The Water Supply of the District is very good. Deep Wells are sunk in the Ashdown Sands and up to the present a plentiful supply of very good water is obtained which is distributed to the District by constant service. The Water has no solvent action on lead.

A condensed copy of analysis of this water is added. Sample of water taken from tap in Town Hall, Uckfield.

	<u>Grains per Gallon.</u>	<u>Parts per Million.</u>
Total Solids	18.2	
After ignition	12.2	
Chlorine	2.3	.016
Ammonia (free)		.038
Ammonia (albumenoid)		.05
Nitrogen as Nitrates & Nitrites		Nil
Nitrites		3.6
Hardness (total)		2.0
Hardness (after boiling)		Nil
Phosphates		Nil
Metals		



### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Growth on Nutrient Gelatine in 2 days at room temperature under aerobic conditions and visible to the naked eye numbered 4.

Organisms of the Coli Group were absent. The water is of very high degree of purity and is quite safe for drinking and domestic purposes.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report is added and contains all the necessary information.

The Sanitary Inspector Mr Scholefield retired in June 1925 and Mr Hollis was appointed Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

In conclusion I have to thank the Council for their courtesy extended to me during the past year.

I also thank the Clerk and other Officials of the Council who have assisted me in my work.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd) HUBERT STOTT.



## UCKFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

### Report of Sanitary Inspector for year ending 31st December 1925

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Acres	1760
Population 1921 Census	3385
Number of inhabited houses 1921--22, 1925--	845
No. of families or separate occupiers (1921)	841
Rateable value	£17253
Sum represented by ld rate	£65

Chief occupations:-                      Farming, Brick & Tile making, Flour Mills  
   Sanitary Laundry, Motor Garages & Workshops.

One whole time Medical Officer of Health

One Sanitary Inspector, C.R.S.I., who also holds the office of Surveyor.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA.

The total number of inspections and revisits made during the year amounted to 488, carried out respectively under the Public Health Acts, Housing & other Acts, Byelaws & Regulations, Factories & Workshops Acts as follows:-

- 140 Special inspections & investigations of complaints
- 17 Inspections & visits in connection with Infectious Diseases
- 59 Various revisits & inspections
- 50 Slaughter-house inspections
- 64 Meat & Food Inspections
- 20 Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops
- 22 Bakehouse inspections
- 26 Factories & Workshops
- 1 Picture Palace
- 89 Houses inspected throughout
- 1 Statutory Notice served
- 56 Preliminary Notices served
- Result of service of Notices:-
- 10 Drains cleared and repaired
- 2 Defective hand flushed W.C. pans removed & replaced with modern pattern pans and flushing cisterns.
- 1 Conversion of Pail Closet into a proper water closet
- 4 Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed
- 5 Defective bell trapped gullies removed & replaced with g.s. ones
- 3 Living room floors repaired
- 3 G.S. sinks provided where none existed
- 3 Sink waste pipes and channels provided
- 1 Sink drain laid
- 2 Defective stone sinks removed and replaced with g.s. ones
- 1 Sanitary Dustbin provided
- 1 Kitchen Range renewed
- 3 Back Yards repaired
- 4 Cowsheds re-limewashed
- 1 Bakehouse floor repaved
- 7 Eaves guttering & down pipes repaired or renewed
- 2 Inspection Chambers provided
- 1 Water leak repaired
- 1 House provided with a proper supply Drinking Water
- 1 House cleansed throughout
- 5 cwt 14lb Meat & Food condemned and destroyed





#### WATER SUPPLY.

No. of dwellinghouses	845
No. supplied from the water works	822
" " " " Wells	23

One house with well water has been connected to the watermain supply

RIVERS & STREAMS. Some pollution takes place by effluent from Central Sewage Works. The Septic Tank there is now being cleaned out, when it is hoped to obtain a better effluent.

<u>CHLORINATION.</u>	No. Water Closets	1558
	" Pail Closets)	
	" Privies	) 48

SCAVENGING. A Contractor removes the house refuse about once in every 7-10 days and same is carted to a tip just outside the Urban District and buried. During recent years about 12 brick ashpits have been done away with and movable ashbins with proper covers supplied.

Premises controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations  
No offensive trades

SCHOOLS. The work of reconstructing and putting in modern sanitary conveniences at The Convent Elementary Schools will shortly be put in hand.

#### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1925.

No. of new houses erected during the year

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) 7

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts

(i) By the Local Authority Nil

(ii) By other bodies or persons 1

1. Unfit dwelling houses.

Inspection	(i) Total No. of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	89
	(ii) No. dwellinghouses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910 or the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	19
	(iii) No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	nil
	(iv) No. of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	19

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal Notice:-

No. defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers 3

3. (a) Action under Statutory Powers:- Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(i) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 68

(ii) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) by owners 51

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

MILK SUPPLY. There are 11 Cowsheds, 5 Dairies & Milkshops in the District all of which are periodically inspected. Notices were served and the work carried out for necessary re-lime washing to 4 Cowsheds. 1 Certificate to sell bottles certified milk for 6 months was issued on July 6th.



- MM/1 (i) There are 3 Slaughterhouses in the District, two being used regularly and inspections made as far as possible during the time of slaughter. Special Notice is sent when slaughtering takes place at the other slaughterhouse.
- Two whole carcasses of pigs and their organs were condemned unfit for human food and under my supervision were destroyed.
- (ii) Under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 the meat shops are frequently visited and no meat is allowed to be hung outside the line of the shop windows.

Private Slaughterhouses	1920	1925	1925
Registered	Nil	January Nil	December Nil
Licensed	3	3	3

OTHER FOODS. The repaving to floor of one bakehouse has been carried out.

#### NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

3 cases of Diphtheria and 3 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified. The 3 cases of Diphtheria and 2 cases of Scarlet Fever being removed to the Joint Isolation Hospital at Chailoy.

DISINFECTANTS Formalin and Sulphur Candles, Sanitas & Lawes Powder. Clothing if necessary removed to Chailoy Isolation Hospital for Steam Disinfection. Antitoxin Diphtheria Serum and Influenza Serum is supplied on demand to Medical Practitioners.

#### LIST OF PROTECTIVE ACTS AND BYELAWS.

Feb.	1	1890	Infectious Diseases (Notifications) Act 1889
"	1	1897	Private Streets Works Act 1892
May	1	1898	Public Health Act Amendment Act 1892. Part 3
	1	1898	Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act 1890
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Nov	6	1896	" " " " " Nuisances
Oct	7	1898	Bye-laws as to Nuisances in connection with removal of offensive or noxious matter
Dec	1	1899	Bye-laws with respect to the Victoria Pleasure Ground
Mar	1	1907	Additional Bye-laws with respect to " " "
Sept	5	1912	Bye-laws with respect to Hackney Carriages
April	26	1925	Modified Bye-laws with respect to New Streets & Buildings.

#### SEWERAGE

No. of houses connected to sewers	810
No. of houses connected to cesspools	35
	.....
	845

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